CLAIMS

1. A graphical user interface for the monitoring and/or controlling of a computer controlled dairy farm system or part thereof, by a human user, c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n that said graphical user interface comprises a computer based graphical and schematic representation of said dairy farm system or part thereof, where said representation comprises objects, each of which represents a respective part of said dairy farm system, or part thereof, and each having a spatial location in relation to the other object(s), wherein said spatial location in relation to other object(s) of the respective object is mapped to the spatial location of the respective represented part of said dairy farm system or part thereof.

2. The graphical user interface as claimed in claim 1, c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n that

- each of said objects has at least one associated physical property, wherein each said at least one physical property associated with the respective object is comprised among physical properties of the respective represented part of said dairy farm system or part thereof; and

- each said at least one physical property which is comprised among the properties of the respective represented part of said dairy farm system or part thereof, is chosen from the group of size, shape, color, direction, movement, amount, rate, and frequency.

3. The graphical user interface as claimed in claim 1 or 2, c h a r a c t e r i z e d i n that said graphical user interface comprises a schematic representation of an entire dairy farm system, in which case said graphical user interface comprises

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objects representing parts such as each individual cow, fence, gate or apparatus in the dairy farm system.

4. The graphical user interface as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that said graphical user interface comprises schematic status indications for at least one of said objects such as for instance if a cow has been milked or not, if a gate is opened or closed, or if an apparatus is in use or not.

5. The graphical user interface as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that said graphical user interface comprises a schematic representation of a milking machine or part thereof, or of a cow or part thereof.

6. The graphical user interface as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that said graphical user interface comprises schematic representations of the teats of a cow, or teat cups that are attached to them, by four icons located schematically with a longer distance between the icons representing the front teats or teat cups and a shorter distance between the icons representing the back teats or teat cups.

7. The graphical user interface as claimed in claim 6, characterized in that the schematic representations of the teats or teat cups are associated with respective controls for start milking or with respective status indications indicating milk yield during milking.

8. The graphical user interface as claimed in claim 6 or 7, characterized in that said graphical user interface comprises schematic representations of the teat cups as detached at spatial locations, which schematically correspond to the respective spatial locations in the milking machine, e.g. along a line.

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9. The graphical user interface as claimed in claim 8, characterized in that each of the four icons schematically representing the teats of a cow, or teat cups that are attached to them, has a visual characteristic in common with the respective associated schematic representation of the teat cup as detached, e.g. along a line, in order to map each detached teat cup to its respective attached position.

10. The graphical user interface as claimed in any of claims 5-9, characterized in that said graphical user interface comprises schematic representations of an entry gate and of an exit gate, respectively, of said milking machine, at spatial locations corresponding schematically to the respective locations in the milking machine.

11. The graphical user interface as claimed in claim 10, characterized in that the schematic representations of the entry gate and of the exit gate are associated with respective controls for opening and closing the respective gate or with respective status indications indicating whether the respective gate is opened or closed.

12. The graphical user interface as claimed in any of claims 6-11, characterized in that said graphical user interface comprises schematic representations of a rear plate and of a manger, respectively, of said milking machine.

13. The graphical user interface as claimed in claim 12, characterized in that the schematic representations of the rear plate and of the manger are associated with respective controls for positioning the rear plate and the manger or with respective status indications indicating the location of the rear plate and the manger.

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14. An automatic milking machine, c h a r a c t e r i z e d   i n   that said graphical user interface comprises a graphical user interface as claimed in any of claims 1-13.

15. A method for providing a graphical user interface for the monitoring and/or controlling of a computer controlled dairy farm system or part thereof, by a human user, c h a r a c t e r i z e d   b y

- displaying a computer based graphical and schematic representation of said dairy farm system or part thereof, where said representation comprises objects, each of which represents a respective part of said dairy farm system or part thereof, and each having a spatial location in relation to the other object(s), wherein said spatial location in relation to other object(s) of the respective object is mapped to the spatial location of the respective represented part of said dairy farm system or part thereof.

16. The method as claimed in claim 15, wherein

- each of said objects has at least one associated physical property, wherein each said at least one physical property associated with the respective object is comprised among physical properties of the respective represented part of said dairy farm system or part thereof; and

- each said at least one physical property which is comprised among the properties of the respective represented part of said dairy farm system or part thereof, is chosen from the group of size, shape, color, direction, movement, amount, rate, and frequency.

17. The method as claimed in claims 15 or 16, c h a r a c t e r i z e d   b y displaying a schematic representation of a milking machine or part thereof, or of a cow or part thereof.

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18. The method as claimed in claim 17, c h a r a c t e r i z e d b y displaying schematic representations of the teats of a cow, or teat cups that are attached to them, by four icons located schematically with a longer distance between the icons representing the front teats or teat cups and a shorter distance between the icons representing the back teats or teat cups.